

any natural amino acid and the serine residues are phosphorylated and said protein comprising the following units having the following positions in the sequence SEQ ID NO:2:

- 03
agrade
- F-box: amino acids 147 - 191,
 - first WD unit: amino acids 259 - 292,
 - second WD unit: amino acids 304 - 332,
 - third WD unit: amino acids 343 - 373,
 - fourth WD unit: amino acids 387 - 415,
 - fifth WD unit: amino acids 427 - 455,
 - sixth WD unit: amino acids 467 - 492, and
 - seventh WD unit: amino acids 516 - 544.
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d4

7. (Twice amended) A nucleic acid sequence coding for the human protein h- β TrCP according to Claim 1, characterized in that it consists of:

- a) the DNA sequence SEQ ID No. 1;
 - b) a DNA sequence which hybridizes under strict conditions with the above sequence;
 - c) A DNA sequence which, due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, results from the sequences a) and b) above and codes for the human protein h- β TrCP; or
 - d) a mRNA and cDNA sequence corresponding to a), b), or c).
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27. (Amended) Antitumoral agents which consist of the peptide fragments of the h- β TrCP protein according to claim 6 and which have conserved both the WD units and the F-box.

37. (Amended) A method of identifying anti-HIV-1 antiviral agents, the method comprising the step of screening anti-HIV antiviral agent candidates using the h- β TrCP protein of Claim 1 to determine the capability of the anti-HIV antiviral agent candidates to inhibit the interaction between h- β TrCP protein and Vpu protein, wherein an anti-HIV antiviral agent candidate that inhibits binding between h- β TrCP protein and Vpu protein is identified as an anti-HIV-1 antiviral agent.